



DRW

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akira ARAI

Appln. No.: 10/674,809

Confirmation No.: 8788

Filed: October 1, 2003

For: IMAGE FORMATION APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR DECREASING DENSITY UNEVENNESS

Docket No: Q77797

Allowed: January 26, 2006

Group Art Unit: 2852

Examiner: Hoan H. Tran

**COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT
OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant offers the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on pages 2-4 of the Notice of Allowability dated January 26, 2006.


Applicant submits that the Examiner's Statement on Allowability of the claims includes the general paraphrasing of claim language. Applicant submits that the claims should be deemed allowable based on each of their respective recitations.

Applicant submits that the claims include various other aspects that provide a separate basis for patentability. The Examiner's statement paraphrases a portion of the subject matter of

the claims, but each claim should be interpreted using its own precise language, and not the paraphrase summary included in the Examiner's statement.

Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by Applicant to date. As emphasized in the "Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed," 1247OG111 (6/26/01), "a response to the examiner's reasons for allowance" is an example of a paper that does "not cause substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process" and is "not considered a 'failure to engage in reasonable efforts' to conclude processing or examination of the application." Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth in the Determination of Patent Term Adjustment dated January 26, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,


Laura Moskowitz
Registration No. 55,470

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 16, 2006